

MAKE THEM ELECTIVE OFFICES.

It will require a Supreme Court decision to determine whether or not Warden McCullough can hold his office by virtue of a Legislative election or the pleasure of a Board.

The law on the subject is held by lawyers to be so vague that it is hard to tell just how it stands. If the Wardenship of the Prison were an elective office depending directly on the vote of the people there would be no misunderstanding of the kind.

There is no reason why the Superintendent of the Insane Asylum, the Wardenship of the State Prison and the Superintendent of the Orphans Home should not all be positions dependent upon the direct vote of the people.

There is no good reason for supposing that a Convention would not make as good a selection as the Board.

The election of the Prison Warden by the Legislature has generally been a prolific source of trouble and more than that one instance completely blocked the machinery of legislation for weeks.

The State has invested any amount of trouble and wrangles in the Home and the Asylum and no matter how a Board decides it is bound to be blamed, and we imagine that there is not member of one of these Boards who would not be glad to have the responsibility of choosing these officers off their hands.

Another thing which can plainly be taken in consideration, is the fact that the parties securing these three positions are not obliged to bear any of the heat and burden of the campaign and contribute to the party expenses as men who are elected by the people.

If the affairs are to continue as they are then there is no valid reason why candidates should not be directly assessed by the State Central Committee for a reasonable share of the expenses of the campaign.

TELL IT ALL.

The most absurd arguments against protection appear in the columns of the San Francisco Examiner. Its plan is to tell half of the story and assume the ignorant reader will not trouble himself about the balance.

In its issue of Saturday it enumerates a list of articles on which the farmer is taxed by the protective tariff. The list is correct, and most of the assertions made are true. It cunningly avoids, however, enumerating any of the articles produced by the farmer, upon which tariff is placed for his protection.

While the Government places a tariff on the implements used in his business, it also takes care to see that foreign wheat, foreign wool and foreign livestock must pay dearly for coming across the sea to compete with him. Yet the Examiner cunningly avoids any mention of this circumstance, and makes it appear that an unappreciative Government has set about to crush him utterly.

It mentions the tariff on agricultural implements, and especially the reaper and mower. A few years ago we heard of no reapers and mowers, and the farmer was compelled to swing a scythe and cradle all day long in the hot sun until his back gave out, and after all that toil he accomplished less than one tenth what the reapers and mowers of the day accomplish.

These magnificent machines have been brought to the present state of perfection under the fostering care of a Government which has protected their manufacture by a tariff.

Had the makers of these labor-saving machines been obliged to compete with English made machines they would have gone out of business years ago, and the farmer who cut his grass or his grain would have been compelled to have used the cumbersome, heavy machines of English manufacture, which re-

quire four horses to draw, instead of the American machine, protected by an American tariff, which does the same with two horses.

Nearly every improvement on agricultural machinery is the result of American energy and American inventive genius, backed by a good, stout American tariff, which guarantees to the maker that he can sell it without competition from abroad.

But for this protection there would be no incentive to invest capital in great enterprises.

If the farmer objects to pay the price for these machines he can fall back on the old settle of his fathers, and no one will interfere with his right to swing it.

If the Examiner is so solicitous for the welfare of the American agriculturist who is so independent and prosperous, why does it continue to advocate the removal of duty on wool, hides and leather?

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